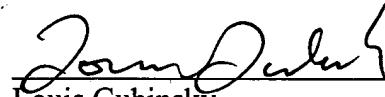


PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
New Patent Application

REMARKS

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: August 31, 2001

**APPENDIX**

**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**The claims are amended as follows:**

3. (Amended) A method according to ~~Claims 1-2~~claim 1, characterized by passing the pulp suspension immediately subsequent to said steam separation to a second refiner for further refinement (defibration) of said pulp and from there to further steam separation.
5. (Amended) A method according to ~~Claims 1-4~~claim 1, characterized by also passing the pulp suspension to a slusher (latency pulper) located immediately upstream of the storage vessel (the latency chest).
7. (Amended) A method according to ~~Claims 1-6~~claim 1, characterized by causing reject pulp suspension from the screening department to pass through a refiner and thereafter through a slusher whereafter said reject pulp suspension is finally fed into the main pulp suspension flow, preferably upstream of and in connection with the storage vessel (the latency chest) or in the storage vessel (the latency chest).
10. (Amended) A method according to ~~Claims 8-9~~claim 8, characterized by adding the bleaching agent to the reject pulp suspension in a pump located in connection with the slusher in this circuit.
12. (Amended) A method according to ~~Claims 1-11~~claim 1, characterized in that the bleaching agent is dithionite, for instance sodium dithionite= $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ .